

February 2011

Bulova Byline

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It was great to see so many of you at my **Chairman's New Year Reception** on January 12th! Inside this issue of Byline is a collage of photos from the event and a link to all the photos we took. I would especially like to thank Chef Christine Gloninger and her students from Annandale High School's Culinary Arts program for catering the reception. Their international faire and striking presentation was equal to any professional catering firm. Adding to the festivities was music played by a talented string quartet, also from Annandale High School. The Reception was a way for me to say thank you to the many County employees, volunteers, Community Association representatives and active County residents who contribute to our exceptional quality of life.

Several items are on the front burner during the weeks ahead. One in particular is a proposal to consider the future of our **Waste-to-Energy Facility** in Lorton. This plant is privately owned by Covanta, is located on County land and operates subject to an agreement with the County which ends in 2016. The plant was built in 1990 using revenue bonds financed through the Fairfax County Solid Waste Authority. Once the bonds are paid off in February, Covanta will own the plant free and clear.

Over the past several months, County staff has been negotiating with Covanta to explore options presented by the expiration of the existing contract. **At stake are control over costs for disposal of trash and use of the plant by jurisdictions and states other than Fairfax.** Three options for future use of the facility are to:

- Allow the contract to expire and the market to determine the cost and availability of use;
- Negotiate a new long-term contract similar to the current contract that includes price and capacity stipulations;
- Purchase the facility and contract with Covanta to operate it.

A purchase would be financed using **Revenue Bonds** that would be paid off with "tipping fees" by users of the plant. Such debt would not affect the County's debt ceiling and would not compete with General Obligation bonds which are used to build schools and other county facilities. **Staff is recommending the third option.** The Board of Supervisors must make a decision by March 3rd according to terms in the existing contract.

This is a very complex issue. It is important for stakeholders to have an opportunity to learn about the details of the proposal and be afforded an opportunity to ask questions and have their perspectives heard. In order to facilitate this dialogue our board has directed staff to arrange for a number of community meetings. I believe that the complex nature of this issue warrants a thoughtful and detailed discussion that cannot be achieved just through a public hearing.

County staff is prepared to explain the merits of, and differences between, the three options in three community outreach meetings. Participants will be able to ask

questions and offer their thoughts on what is best for the community.

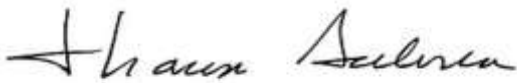
Dates and locations for the Community meetings are:

- **Thursday, Jan. 27** – 7 p.m. at South County Secondary School (8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton)
- **Monday, Jan. 31** – 7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax) in conference room 2 & 3
- **Tuesday, Feb. 1** – 7 p.m. at the North County Governmental Center (12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston) in the Community Room

In addition to holding these public meetings the Office of Public Affairs is utilizing the County's social media platform to collect comments and distribute information, and has scheduled an **Ask Fairfax! live chat** with Department of Public Works and Environmental Services staff for residents to ask questions and learn more about the proposal. This will take place on **Thursday, January 27, at 1:30p.m.** I feel strongly that this comprehensive outreach plan is critical to our tradition of conducting County business in an open and transparent manner. Additionally I believe that the culmination of this process should be a **formal public hearing before the full Board on February 22nd at 4:30 p.m.**

Also on February 22nd the County Executive will release his **Advertised Budget for Fiscal Year 2012**. As I said during my State of the County address, when we adopt the budget, we are adopting – and investing in – our community's priorities. It is critical to have the community at the table with us as we consider these decisions. You can watch the County Executive's presentation on Cable Channel 16 or by going to the County's website where our meeting will be streamed live. I encourage everyone to participate in this important process and to take advantage of the town meetings and forums that we will be hosting this winter and spring.

Sincerely,



Sharon Bulova – Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Thank you to everyone who made my **New Year Reception** a big success!

The following morning I gave my State of the County address, outlining my priorities for 2011. The speech will air on Channel 16 on Fridays and Sundays at 5:30 and Wednesdays at 7:30 and is available online. Thanks and Happy New Year!

State of the County text and video:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/news/state-of-the-county-2011.htm>

Pictures from the New Year Reception:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/58255220@N07/sets/72157625816261154/>



Fairfax County to Launch Comprehensive Transit Study

In my State of the County last month, I talked about the importance of **investing in our transportation infrastructure**, and creating an efficient system for our residents.

To guide our future investments and planning for transit, the Fairfax County Department of Transportation will initiate a **Countywide Transit Network Study** in 2011 in order to plan a long-term efficient, high-quality transit system for the County's growing population and employment.

High quality transit is needed as the County's activity centers continue to grow. We know the importance of planning ahead, and providing additional roadway capacity becomes increasingly difficult in the longer term.

This study will use the **Enhanced Public Transportation Corridors**

identified in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan as potential future mass transit corridors as the basis for developing a connected Countywide Transit Network.

These include the Richmond Highway corridor, the Franconia-Springfield and Fairfax County parkways, the Dulles Toll Road corridor, Route 28, Leesburg Pike to Tysons Corner, I-66, I-95, I-395, and the Capital Beltway.

Each of these corridors will be evaluated for which transit mode is best, where stations should be located, and the impacts on right-of-way.

A scope of work was drafted and presented to the Board of Supervisors' Transportation Committee late last year. A Request for Proposals will be advertised in early 2011, and it is anticipated that a **consultant will be on board in the spring.**



"High quality transit is needed as the County's activity centers continue to grow. We know the importance of planning ahead, and providing additional roadway capacity becomes increasingly difficult in the longer term."

Private Sector Energy Task Force Begins Work

On January 27 I hosted the first meeting of my private sector energy task force. The group's purpose is to define the steps our community can take to position ourselves as a leader in the areas of energy efficiency, sustainability and "green" technology.

Redevelopment in Fairfax County will offer important opportunities for energy creativity and collaboration that we must explore. Additionally, technology is emerging that will help our residents and corporate neighbors

save money and precious natural resources as we heat and cool our homes and offices and operate machinery and tools.

The task force, chaired by Leo Schefer of the Washington Airports Task Force, includes representatives of Fairfax County's residential and business communities, institutional representatives such as George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, INOVA, and utilities operating in the County.

The task force's work will continue throughout the winter and spring and will build on ongoing County initiatives, such as our participation in the Cool Counties program.

Working in partnership with our private sector partners, I believe that Fairfax County will be able to achieve significant improvements in our economy, lower energy consumption, and make Fairfax County a model for energy efficiency.

Secure Document Shredding, Recycling Program for Residents Continues



For additional information, please contact the Solid Waste Management Program at 703-324-5230, TTY 711.

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program will continue its **Secure Document Shredding and Recycling Program** for county residents in 2011.

Events scheduled include one shredding event in each supervisory district during the year. Participation at these events is free for Fairfax County residents.

A **complete calendar** of all events scheduled for 2011 is available online at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/shredding.htm>.

Residents may shred up to five medium-sized packing boxes of paper per household.

This service is intended for shredding documents of a personal or sensitive nature such as tax documents, medical or financial records.

Film, discs or other electronic media will not be accepted for destruction at this event. Residents are also asked to remove all paper from binders and remove all paper clips, binder clips and rubber bands.

Paper documents are shred on location by a private company and then transported to a local recycling center.

For additional information, please contact the Solid Waste Management Program at 703-324-5230, TTY 711.

Stuff the Bus Coming to a Neighborhood Near You

As the need in our community for food assistance is growing, **Neighborhood and Community Services** and the **Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3)** are partnering with **MV Transportation, Inc.**, and local grocery stores to collect donations of food to assist the most vulnerable in our community.

You are invited to attend the Fastran Stuff the Bus - Food for Fairfax Drive events during the months of January and February. All donations will go directly to local nonprofit organizations that help feed needy families and individuals in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community. Look for the **Fastran bus** parked at the following locations between the hours of **9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.** For more information, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec/news/nr2011/fstb.htm> or call **703-222-9764 (TTY 711.)**

February 5	Colonnade Giant 5740 Union Mill Rd. Clifton, VA 20124
February 5	Huntsman Square Giant 7501 Huntsman Blvd. Springfield, VA 22153
February 12	Fair City Shoppers 9622 Main St Fairfax, VA 22031
February 12	Bloom at Brookfield Shopping Center 3059 Centerville Rd Herndon, VA 20171
February 19	Beacon Mall Giant 6800 Richmond Hwy. Alexandria, VA 22306
February 19	Fair Lakes Center Bloom 13065 Fair Lakes Center Fairfax, VA 22033
February 22	Manchester Lakes Shoppers 7005 Manchester Lakes Blvd Franconia, VA 22310
February 22	Gunston Plaza Bloom 7760 Gunston Plaza Drive Lorton, VA 22079

Fairfax County Receives Daniel Burnham Award for Tysons Plan

Fairfax County will receive The Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan for its blueprint to transform Tysons Corner.

The American Planning Association grants this prestigious award to only one urban plan in the nation each year for advancing the science and art of planning.

This award is an incredible honor and shows what can be achieved when an experienced, dedicated staff works with an actively engaged citizenry to create a vision for their community.

The comprehensive plan will result in the transformation of Tysons Corner from a sprawling office park into a sustainable, walkable, transit-oriented second downtown for the D.C. Metro region that also will serve as an economic engine and premier employment center for Fairfax County.

Today, Tysons Corner is the 12th largest employment center in the nation, the largest outside of a traditional downtown.

The Comprehensive Plan for Tysons envisions up to 100,000 residents and 200,000 jobs by the year 2050, twice the jobs and five times the number of residents today.

It will become a 24-hour urban center where people live, work, shop, and play—an unprecedented change for an area that has developed as an “edge city,” an employment center with regional shopping malls and few options for transportation other than driving.

The Burnham Award is named after America’s most famous planner, Daniel Burnham, recognizing his contributions to the planning profession and to a greater awareness of the benefits of good planning.

“This award is an incredible honor and shows what can be achieved when an experienced, dedicated staff works with an actively engaged citizenry to create a vision for their community.”



Internship Opportunities in Chairman Bulova’s Office

The Chairman’s Office is currently accepting applications for unpaid **spring and summer internships**.

We are looking for college students interested in politics or government who would like the opportunity to get first-hand experience with the business of local government in the largest county in Virginia.

Intern duties will include constituent service work such as drafting letters and answering phone calls, issue research, and other tasks as needs arise.

Applicants should be interested in the work of local government, and should be enthusiastic, hard-working and reliable.

Full or part-time internships are available and we are willing to support students seeking course credit for their time. Send resumes and cover letters to Mark.Thomas@fairfaxcounty.gov or fax to **703-324-3955**. For all faxes and emails related to this internship opportunity, please use the subject line “Internship Application.”



Capital Beltway HOT Lanes Project 55 Percent Complete

In 2010, the HOT Lanes Project construction crews made big progress towards giving motorists on the beltway a commuting choice, and they entered the New Year with 55 percent of the project completed.

What does 55 percent mean to drivers in the area?

A new bridge span was completed at every Beltway interchange in 2010, and traffic was shifted over to the new span while work continues on the other span.

For the **Little River Turnpike, Gallows Road and Idylwood Road** bridge work, construction crews developed an accelerated construction plan to complete these bridges quicker than originally scheduled.

This may mean more traffic impacts in the short term, but construction will be done quicker.

For example, **Gallows Road** will be completed nearly a year earlier than originally scheduled and Idylwood Bridge will be completed in six months compared to the previous two-year schedule.

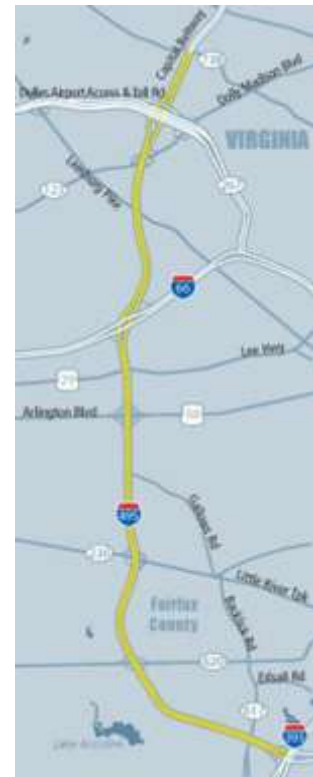
In addition, **75 percent of the sound wall work is completed** and new Beltway lanes can be seen on the inner and outer loops in the **Braddock Road** area and between Idylwood Road overpass and Rt. 7.

Both sections are expected to open to traffic this spring, which is nearly a year ahead of schedule. These new lanes will move traffic to the right for construction of the new HOT Lanes between the inner and outer loops.

In the coming spring, the Lewinsville Road and the Idylwood bridges will be completed. By late summer, the northbound span of Gallows Road will be completed, followed by the second spans at Braddock Road and Little River Turnpike in the fall.

All of the bridge work for the Springfield Interchange is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011.

Crews will then work on special HOT Lanes connections at certain interchanges, and the whole project is on schedule to be completed by late 2012.



Fairfax County's 'Green' Trash Truck Begins Work

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program has turned the ignition on its first hydraulic hybrid trash and recycling collection vehicle serving Fairfax County residents in established sanitary districts. The trash truck is **the commonwealth's first** to utilize a hydraulic hybrid assist system.

The county utilized **\$35,000 in federal grant funding** to purchase this system that is estimated to save up to 6 percent in fuel and maintenance costs.

Trash trucks stop and start up to 800 times per day collecting waste or recyclables from residential homes. The new hydraulic hybrid system utilizes a hydraulic pump installed along the truck's drive shaft that will aid in slowing the vehicle's forward movement while gaining a charge to be used to assist with the vehicle's acceleration.

In addition to cost savings, this new system will also provide environmental benefits through **reduced fuel consumption, emissions and generation of heat from the braking process.**

"It has long been our priority to promote environmental stewardship throughout Fairfax County, not just 'make the trash go away,'" said **Jeff Smithberger, director of the Division of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling.** "Part of our strategic process incorporates looking at the feasibility of new technologies and innovations that can help us perform our work at a high level and in a cost-efficient manner while minimizing the impact on our local environment."

For the past two years, Fairfax County's trash and recycling collection vehicles have been equipped with a regeneration system aimed at reducing the vehicle's carbon footprint. This system captures carbon and soot particles, causing the truck to run cleaner than its traditional counterpart.

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program provides collection service to County facilities, 45,000 County residents in established sanitary districts and to provide debris removal in times of emergency.



"Part of our strategic process incorporates looking at the feasibility of new technologies and innovations that can help us perform our work at a high level and in a cost-efficient manner while minimizing the impact on our local environment."

In case of inclement weather...

As many county residents will recall, we received a record amount of snow in early 2010, and I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you about the services available to you in case we experience another harsh winter.

Most of the roads in Fairfax County are state roads and are plowed by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). After the storms last year, your elected representatives at the state and local levels met with the local VDOT administrators and a more robust snow response plan is in place this year.

If you have concerns about plowing in your neighborhood, the Northern Virginia District Office of VDOT can be contacted at 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or by email at novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov. Additionally, the Board of Supervisors works closely with VDOT to insure that our constituents are well served, so please feel free to contact my office or the offices of my colleagues and we will follow up with VDOT on your concerns.

Make sure you know how to contact your **utility providers** in the event of a service disruption. **Dominion Virginia Power (1-866-366-4357 for outages) and NOVEC (703-335-0500 or 1-888-335-0500 for outages) are the power providers in the county.** A complete list of utility providers and their contact information is available through the county's website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/utilities/utilitycompanies.htm>.

One of the best ways to be prepared for winter weather is to **subscribe to the county's Community Emergency Alert Network**, which delivers messages about crises, emergencies, traffic delays and weather events. Subscribers can receive CEAN messages via email, phone, pager, or other wireless device. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean/> to register for this service.

We recognize that heavy snowfall can make it challenging for residents to access medical services. **Residents with high-risk health conditions are strongly encouraged to sign up with the County's Special Needs Registry** (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/specialneeds/> or (703) 324-9000). The information in the registry will be used by county agencies to improve their ability to serve participants in the event of an emergency. In the event of an emergency all residents, whether or not they are on the Special Needs Registry, should call 9-1-1.

Residents are also encouraged to prepare for winter weather by **winterizing their homes, preparing an emergency supply kit, avoiding unnecessary travel and allowing extra time for travel during inclement weather.** For tips on these topics and others related to winter weather preparedness, please visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/prepare/winter/>.